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MAY 27 2008

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend Claim 91 as follows:

Claims 1-63. Cancelled

64. (Previously Presented) A process for making aluminosilicates of zeolite N structure comprising the steps of:

- (i) combining a water soluble monovalent cation, a solution of hydroxyl anions and an aluminosilicate to form a resultant mixture having a pH greater than 10 and a H_2O/Al_2O_3 molar ratio in the range 30 to 220;
- (ii) heating and stirring the resultant mixture to a temperature of between 50° and the boiling point of the mixture for a time between 1 minute and 100 hours until a crystalline product of zeolite N structure is formed as determined by X-ray diffraction or other suitable characteristic; and
- (iii) separating the zeolite N product as a solid from the mixture.

65. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 64 wherein the water soluble monovalent cation in step (i) is an alkali metal or an ammonium ion or mixtures of these ions.

66. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 65 wherein the alkali metal comprises a potassium ion.

67. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 65 wherein the alkali metal comprises both a potassium and sodium ion.

68. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 65 wherein the monovalent cation comprises both potassium and ammonium ions.

69. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 64 wherein the resultant mixture of step (i) also contains a halide.

70. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 69 wherein the halide is chloride.

71. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 64 wherein the pH of the solution of hydroxyl ions is greater than 13.

72. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 64 wherein in step (ii) the resultant mixture is heated to a temperature of in the range 80°C to 95°C.

73. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 64 wherein the aluminosilicate has a Si:Al ratio in the range 1.0 to 5.0.

74. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 73 wherein the aluminosilicate has a Si:Al ratio in the range 1.0 to 3.0

75. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 73 wherein the aluminosilicate is a clay.

76. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 75 wherein the clay is kaolin, meta-kaolin or montmorillonite or mixtures thereof.

77. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 64 wherein in step (ii) said heating is carried out for a time in the range 2 to 24 hours.

78. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 64 wherein the molar ratio of $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ in the mixture of step (i) is in the range 45 to 65.

79. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 64 wherein in step (i) a quantity of solid zeolite N is added to the mixture.

80. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 64 wherein caustic liquor remaining in the mixture after step (iii) is re-used as at least part of a solution of anions and cations in step (i) for subsequent production of additional zeolite N product.

81. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 66 wherein the amount of potassium utilized is governed by a molar ratio of K_2O/Al_2O_3 in the range of 0.3 to 15.

82. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 66 wherein the amount of potassium utilized is governed by a molar ratio of K_2O/Al_2O_3 in the range of 0.0 to 15.

83. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 70 wherein the amount of chloride utilized is governed by a molar ratio of KCl/Al_2O_3 in the range of 0.0 to 15.

84. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 67 wherein the alkali metal is sodium and the amount of sodium utilized is governed by a molar ratio of Na_2O/Al_2O_3 in the range of 0.0 to 2.5.

85. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 65 wherein the alkali metal is sodium and the amount of sodium utilized is governed by a molar ratio of $NaCl/Al_2O_3$ in the range of 0.0 to 2.8.

86. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 70 wherein the amount of chloride utilized is governed by a molar ratio of $NaCl/Al_2O_3$ in the range of 0.0 to

2.8.

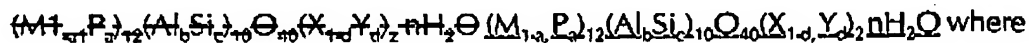
87. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 80 wherein the amount of chloride utilized is governed by a molar ratio of $\text{Cl}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ in the range of 0.0 to 6.5.

88. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 67 wherein the amount of sodium and potassium utilized is governed by a ratio of $\text{K}/(\text{K} + \text{Na})$ in the range 0.5 to 1.0

89. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 67 wherein the amount of sodium and potassium utilized is governed by a ratio of $(\text{K} + \text{Na-Al})/\text{Si}$ in the range 2.0 to 18.0.

90. (Previously Presented) Zeolite N produced by the process of claim 64.

91. (Currently Amended) Zeolite N produced by the process of claim 64 having a composition according to the formula



M = alkali metal or ammonium;

P = alkali metal, ammonium or metal cation(s) exchanged in lieu of alkali metal or ammonium;

X = halide and Y is an anion; and

$$0 \leq a \leq 1, 1 \leq c/b \leq \infty, 0 \leq d \leq 1 \text{ and } 1 \leq n \leq 10,$$

with the proviso when $a = 0, b = 1, c = 1, d = 0, X = Cl$ and $M \neq K$.